

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 1, please amend the first full paragraph as follows:

The present invention relates to a backlight unit for irradiating a liquid crystal display or the like with light from the rear side thereof, and a liquid crystal display apparatus comprising the backlight unit.

Page 19, the second full paragraph, please amend as follows:

Figure 3 is a perspective view showing the end side portion of the backlight unit 10. A rubber holder 22 holds the linear light source 11. A conductive sheet 23 is interposed between the rubber holder 22 and the light amount reducing members member 21. At least a portion of the conductive sheet 23 is attached to the metal lamp reflector 12 via a conductive adhesive. The lamp reflector 12 is connected (grounded) to GND.

Page 23, the first full paragraph, please amend as follows:

The size of the light amount reducing member 21 is determined depending on the arrangement of the linear light source 11 and the lamp reflector 12. The dimension thickness of the light amount reducing member 21 provided on the end side 15a of the light guide plate 15 (in a vertical direction as seen in Fig. 1) is

preferably about one third of the thickness of the light guide plate 15 at the end side 15a of the light guide plate 15. The dimension thickness of the light amount reducing member 21 provided on the light emitting side 15b of the light guide plate 15 (in a horizontal direction as seen in Fig. 1) is preferably about 3 mm to 10 mm depending on the level of a bright line occurring at a side of the liquid crystal panel 101, which is proximal to the linear light source 11. The thickness of the light amount reducing member 21 is generally 25 nm to 250 nm, for example, when the light amount reducing member 21 is made of ITO film. The light transmittance of the light amount reducing member 21 varies more or less, depending on the thickness thereof.